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The NEBLINE, August 2005

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The NEBLINE[®]

UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska
Lincoln

University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension in Lancaster County
“Helping Nebraskans enhance their lives through research-based education.”

August 2005
Vol. XIX, No. 8

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2005
LANCASTER COUNTY FAIR
AUGUST 3–7
Lancaster Event Center
FREE ADMISSION!
FREE PARKING!



**People's Choice
4-H Awards**

see page 9

4-H Food Booth at County Fair Volunteers Have Fun, Rewarding Experience

The 4-H food booth at the Lancaster County Fair is a long-standing tradition. In the 1960s, 4-H Council operated the *Snack Shack* in the 4-H Building on the State Fair grounds.

In 1992, when the Youth Complex was built, 4-H Council then also operated a full-service *Rock Cafe*. In 2001, when the county fair moved to the Lancaster Event Center, the 4-H food booth became the *4-H Corner Stop*.

All proceeds from the food booth go to 4-H Council.

“The 4-H food booth has always been a positive experience for 4-H’ers and public alike,” says Cindy Fiala, current president of 4-H Council. “The youth have a blast.”

More than 130 youth and adults volunteer at the 4-H food booth during county fair, totalling more than 360 hours!

At any given time, three to four youth are needed with one or two adults supervising. Most shifts are filled by clubs. “Sometimes the large clubs have so many people in the booth they are on top of each other,” laughs Fiala, “But they have fun.”

4-H member Nathan Smith says, “Working in the food booth at the county fair is a great opportunity to get better acquainted with the members of your club. Older members display their leadership skills while assisting younger members. It is most entertaining when there is an abun-

dance of business, though it can be hectic.”

“This is a good opportunity for youth to learn new skills,” says Tracy Kulm, 4-H staff member.

Youth gain practical experience handling food safely and counting change. They also gain life skills, such as responsibility, critical thinking and social skills.

Laura Cassel, a 4-H youth, says, “Working the food booth at the fair has really helped give me a feel for what it’s like to work in a customer service type of job. By volunteering at the food booth I’m not only helping hungry individuals at the fair, but also myself and

the entire 4-H community.”

The food booth has to follow health standards, and a certified food manager must oversee operations. Volunteers are trained in safe food handling procedures such as checking food tempera-

tures and keeping the booth clean. The Health Department gives an unannounced inspection at each fair.

A 4-H Council member is at or near the food booth at all times during the fair. Council members also volunteer time before the fair on preparations, such as purchasing food and supplies.

The 4-H food booth is a large undertaking, but 4-H Council members and countless volunteers work hard to make it successful!

Volunteers Still Needed

There are still some food booth shifts open for this year’s fair:

- Friday, 7:30–11:30 a.m.
- Saturday, 7:30–11:30 a.m. & 6–9 p.m.
- Sunday, 7:30–11:30 a.m.

If your 4-H club is interested in helping, please call Jean Pedersen at 420-0573.

Food Booth Training

All volunteers are encouraged to attend the Food Booth Training on Thursday, July 28 from 6–7 p.m. at the Lancaster Event Center.



Staffing the 4-H Food Booth is usually a club activity



Council member Jo Fujan bakes homemade cinnamon rolls to sell at the food booth.

Support 4-H by Supporting the 4-H Corner Stop

The *4-H Corner Stop* at the Lancaster County Fair is located near the main entrance of the Lancaster Event Center. Orders can be taken from the Lincoln Room or the Multipurpose Arena.



**New this year —
COTTON
CLOVER
CANDY**
with 2 great
flavors:
silly nilly
pink and
blue
raspberry.

**Also new —
SHAVED ICE**
in a variety
of flavors!

The 4-H Corner Stop features a variety of snacks and beverages, including:

- Cotton Clover Candy
- Shaved Ice
- Homemade Cinnamon Rolls
- Walking Tacos
- Nachos
- Popped Corn (plain or caramel)
- Candy
- Fresh Fruit
- Milk (white or chocolate)
- Pop
- Ice Tea
- Lemonade
- Gatorade
- Bottled Water

HOURS:

Monday 3:30 p.m.–8 p.m.
Tuesday 7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Wed–Sat 7:30 a.m.–9 p.m.
Sunday 7:30 a.m.–2 p.m.

Booth Funds 4-H Council Activities

The 4-H food booth at the county fair is Lancaster County 4-H Council’s primary fundraiser. A non-profit organization, 4-H Council currently consists of eight adults and seven youth. The council is responsible for determining long- and short-term goals and policy for Lancaster County 4-H. Members also put in countless volunteer hours at 4-H events.

4-H council financially supports several 4-H programs, activities and scholarships. Here is a partial list:

- Achievement Night
- Kick Off/Open House
- College and Camp Scholarships
- Support for Citizenship Washington Focus
- Support for Contest Registrations
- Volunteer Recognition
- 4-H Promotional Items
- Support for **earth wellness festival**



4-H Council provides \$20 Activity Certificates to youth recognized for community service (above). Council members work with 4-H staff to present the Kick Off (at left).

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Lancaster County 4-H Council
University of Nebraska
444 Cherry Creek Road • Suite A
Lincoln, Nebraska 68528-1507

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Post Office
Permit No. 537
Lincoln, Nebraska



by Lorene Bartos, Extension Educator

Energy Saving Ideas

Here are some no- or low-cost ideas to help you save energy and money at home or business:

- ✓ Replace incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescents.
- ✓ Air dry dishes instead of using your dishwasher's drying cycle.
- ✓ Use your microwave instead of a conventional electric range or oven.
- ✓ Turn off your computer and monitor when not in use.
- ✓ Plug home electronics, such as TVs and VCRs, into power strips and turn power strips off when equipment is not in use.
- ✓ Lower the thermostat on your hot water heater; 115 F is comfortable for most uses.
- ✓ Take showers instead of baths to reduce hot water use.
- ✓ Wash only full loads of dishes and clothes.

Praise and Encouragement

We all need to feel we have the approval of others. Children are no different. Discouraged children often misbehave; encouragement is a tool parents and teachers can use to help children feel respected and valued, therefore minimizing misbehavior. Psychologist Rudolph Dreikurs said, "Children need encouragement, just as plants need water. They cannot survive without it."

Do you know the difference between praise and encouragement? Encouragement fosters self-confidence while praise more often results in dependence on others. Appreciation addresses the action specifically ("You did a great job getting up this morning."), asks for the opinion of another ("What do you think about this?") or asks questions. Praise is patronizing ("Good boy."), expects conformity or is judgmental ("Thank you for sitting like your sister.").

If you aren't sure whether something you say is encouragement or praise, ask yourself these questions: Am I being respectful or patronizing? Would I make this comment to another adult? While children shouldn't always be treated as adults, they must be respected the same way.

Timing is important when making a statement of appreciation. If a misbehavior is involved, wait until after both you and your child have had some time to cool down. Neither the giver nor receiver is open to encouragement in the heat of battle! The fact you meet with your child to work out a solution to the problem exhibits encouragement. You are letting your child know you value his or her opinion and what is said is important in finding a solution to the problem.

As you work with your child, understanding is key. That doesn't mean you agree or condone what your child has done. It simply means you can, or have, put yourself in the same position and you understand your child's viewpoint. Understanding means you want your child to work toward improvement, not perfection. Remember to be realistic; after all, no one is perfect!

With county fair and sports activities keeping families involved this summer it is important to encourage children and find the good and learning in what they do — win or lose, purple ribbon or red ribbons.

Source: *Positive Discipline* by Jane Nelsen, Ed. D.

FAMILY & COMMUNITY EDUCATION (FCE) CLUBS

President's Notes — Janet's Jargon

Janet Broer
FCE Council Chair



The heat of summer is upon us. My next door neighbors have a swimming pool and they have been kind enough to offer me a cool down if I need it.

Thoughts come to mind of how times have changed in 50 plus years for me regarding swimming. To merit a trip to the town pool my brothers and I would have to fill "x" number of coffee cans with cherries and we used step ladders to reach the cherries! Tupperware wasn't available back then. Depending on the temperature you might even help a sibling meet their quota. Sometimes we stripped to our underwear and jumped into the cattle tank for a quick swim. Mom heavily frowned on that practice since we really needed to wear more clothes. Picking cherries was the ticket to enjoy a real pool.

received several very good applications and the final decision was not easy.

Lancaster County Fair runs August 3–7 at the Lancaster Event Center. We have the largest county horse show in the state with some very talented exhibitors. Our fair has gotten bigger and better than ever with events for all ages; be sure to take in some of the interesting exhibits and events.

September 19–20 is the FCE State Convention in Burwell. There are four tours scheduled for Monday with the business meeting and presentations set for Tuesday. This would be a good year to go to convention if you have not previously attended. I have found

it to be an inspiring and fun time. Raffle tickets for theme baskets will be sold at convention. This is the time to turn in items for Women's Survival, such as used cell phones and old jack style phones. National FCE is continuing to collect yarn, floss and knitting needles for their international project.

They are collecting old used ink cartridges from printers and fax machines.

Attention FCE members — get state and national dues free by bringing in a new or reinstated member for 2006. Invite your neighbor, friend or daughter to join our organization. There is truly something for everyone — skills, crafts, education, and best of all, good friendships develop. Together we help each other become a better community.

Enjoy your summer and keep cool.



FCE News & Events

2005 Scholarship Winner

At the July FCE Council meeting, Connie Lemke was presented the 2005 FCE Council college scholarship. Lemke, a student at the University of Nebraska-Omaha, is pursuing a career as a pediatric oncology nurse. Lemke is a former member of Lancaster County 4-H and graduate of Waverly High School.



Council Chair Janet Broer (left) presents Connie Lemke (right) with the 2005 FCE Scholarship.

Re-Organizational Packets

Presidents of FCE Clubs can pick up their packet to reorganize for 2006 after mid-August. There are October deadlines within the packet. If you have questions, call Lorene or Pam at 441-7180. It is time to look forward and plan an exciting and educational year for FCE.

Upcoming Fall Dates

- **State FCE Convention** — Sept. 19–20, Burwell
- **FCE Council Meeting** — Sept. 26, 1 p.m.
- **Leader Training "Credit Card, Friend or Foe?"** — Sept. 27, 1 p.m.
- **FCE Dues to State Treasurer** — Oct. 1
- **National FCE Week** — Oct. 9–15
- **Achievement Meeting** — Oct. 17, 6:30 p.m.

Pack Your Street Sense When You Pack Your Bags

Don't Leave Your Street Sense at Home When You Travel

- Use traveler's checks and credit cards instead of cash whenever possible. Take only those credit cards you need.
- Carry a purse close to your body, not dangling by the straps. Carry a wallet in an inside coat or front trouser pocket. Better still wear a money pouch underneath your clothing.
- Be alert for pickpockets in crowded areas like airline, bus and train terminals, major tourist attractions and public transportation.
- Don't look distracted or lost. Walk confidently and stay

alert to what's happening around you.

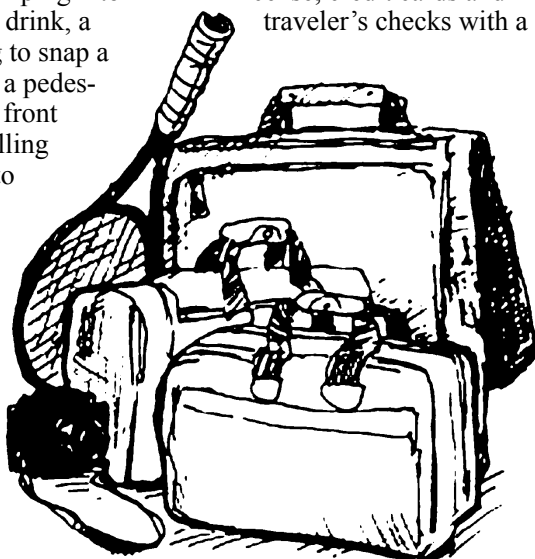
- Stay alert for staged mishaps, like someone bumping into you or spilling a drink, a stranger offering to snap a family photo, or a pedestrian jumping in front of the car and falling so you leap out to investigate.

Before You Go

- Plan ahead. If you're traveling by car, get maps and plan your route. Have the car and tires checked out

before you leave.

- Leave copies of the numbers of your passport, driver's license, credit cards and traveler's checks with a



friend in case you need to replace them.

- Put lights and a radio on timers to create the illusion someone is at home when you go away. Leave shades, blinds and curtains in normal positions. Stop the mail and newspapers or ask a neighbor to take them in.

Once You're There

- When you check into a hotel or motel, check out the locks. Look for deadbolts or solid doors with peepholes. FYI... the new coded electronic cards are safer than ordinary key locks.
- Be sure your luggage is locked. Keep it close to you at all times.

- Keep valuables in a hotel safe or safe deposit box. Better still, leave them at home.
- Ask the hotel or motel staff or police about the neighborhood's safety and what areas to avoid.
- Lock belongings in your suitcase or keep them out of sight.
- Don't display guest room keys in public or carelessly leave them on restaurant tables, at the swimming pool, or other places where they can be easily stolen.

Immediately report any crime to the police.

Source: *The National Crime Prevention Council*

New Effective Mosquito Repellents Less Greasy, Odor Free

Barb Ogg
Extension Educator

According to a recent survey from Harvard University of Public Health, 45 percent of U.S. adults reported they did not take any precautions to prevent mosquito bites last summer. One reason might be because people don't like the greasy feel and smell of DEET (diethyl toluamide) repellents. Fortunately, you now have choices — picaridin is a new insect repellent that is comparable in effectiveness to DEET products, but is odorless, not irritating and doesn't damage plastics or synthetic materials. Another option is oil of lemon eucalyptus, a plant-based mosquito repellent. It is effective for only a couple hours, similar to low concentrations of DEET products. Oil of lemon eucalyptus is available in a variety of formulations throughout the U.S. Picaridin-based repellents have been available in Europe, Australia, Latin America and Asia for some time, but is now

available in the U.S. and sold under the name of Cutter Advanced™ Insect Repellent. In addition to mosquitoes, picaridin was tested in lab and field studies and found to be effective against biting flies and ticks. Picaridin works in a similar way to DEET by blocking the insect's ability to locate you. Consumer Reports compared Cutter Advanced™ (7% picaridin) with Cutter Unscented (10% DEET) against aggressive (*Aedes* spp) and less aggressive (*Culex* spp) mosquitoes. They found both repellents prevented bites for about two to three hours with the aggressive species, eight hours for less aggressive species. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has three mosquito repellents on its recommended list of effective products: deet, picaridin and oil of lemon eucalyptus.



Summer brings mosquitoes and the risk of West Nile Virus (WNV) and other infections spread by mosquitoes. Using repellents is especially important for people over 50 because they are more likely to become seriously ill if infected with WNV. Severe symptoms can include high fever, disorientation, convulsions, muscle weakness, vision loss, paralysis, coma and, in rare instances, death. In 2003, 26 Nebraskans died from WNV. Twenty four of the deaths were people 65 years old or older. To prevent mosquito bites, you should use repellent any-time you go outside, especially during prime mosquito biting hours, between dusk and dawn. Read and follow the label instructions, and re-apply repellent if mosquitoes start biting you. Use of commercial and trade names does not imply approval or constitute endorsement by UNL Extension.

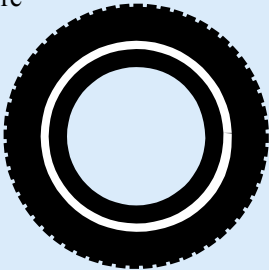
Control Mosquito Populations

Reducing mosquito populations in your area can help restrain the threat of West Nile Virus. Mosquitoes breed in standing water and their eggs must be in water to hatch. Breeding sites include wading pools, bird baths, leaf-clogged gutters, low areas in yards and alleys, potted plants, poorly drained curbs leading to storm sewers, old tires or any other containers that will hold water. Make sure these areas do not have standing water for long periods of time to reduce the area mosquito population. Farmers should check irrigation re-use pits and areas where drainage from irrigation or heavy rains drain to roadside ditches. Insecticides can be used as residual sprays for mosquitoes that rest in shrubs, flowers and trees. There are insecticide treatments for immature mosquitoes in the aquatic habitat. These can be applied as granules, pellets, briquettes or sprays.

Source: Dave Keith, UNL Urban Integrated Pest Management Specialist.

Scrap Tire Collection Sept. 24 & 25

Individuals will have an opportunity to get rid of scrap tires that may have accumulated around your place. Tires (without the wheels) will be accepted Sept. 24 & 25 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. at the Shoemakers Truck Stop, 48th and West O Street, Lincoln. Please have a count of the number of tires you are dropping off. Sorry, this opportunity is open to individuals only — the grant specially prohibits tire dealers. This program is funded through a grant from the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality and hosted by the Emerald Sanitary Improvement District Number 6. For more information, call 476-3590.



Using Natural Enemies to Control Pests

Soni Cochran
Extension Associate

Integrated Pest Management helps you manage pests with fewer risks to people, animals and the environment. And if you choose an IPM approach, you'll most likely spend less money controlling pests. How do you do that? You use knowledge and common sense BEFORE reaching for the nearest "bug spray." One IPM approach is using biological controls. Biological control is the process of using natural enemies to control specific pests. There are several ways to take advantage of natural predators. The most practical strategy is through conservation. You encourage the natural predators in your yard so they can help you control pests. How do you start?

- Learn how to recognize help-

ful insects and spiders. Don't confuse the good with the bad. Most people recognize lady bugs and identify them as "good bugs." However, not many people know what the larva stage looks like and spray them thinking they are a pest. All stages of lady beetles (bugs) are important in helping control aphid pests.

- Stop and think before choosing insecticides — most are toxic to pests AND predators. When you use insecticides, you injure or kill the natural enemies of pests and actually increase the survival of the remaining insect pests.
- If you need to use an insecticide, read the label and choose one that is selective for the pest you want to control.
- Add different types of plants to your yard and garden. Trees, shrubs, flowers — a variety of plants attract a host of beneficial predators includ-

ing wasp, birds, lacewings and so many more. You may already be using an Integrated Pest Management approach in your yard and not even know it!

- Do you plant trees and shrubs that attract wildlife, provide water for birds or put up bird houses to encourage nesting?
- Did you walk around the wolf spider in the garden instead of killing it with insecticide?

These are just two simple, inexpensive examples of how we can encourage and protect predators which in turn, help us by feeding on insect pests.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
NebGuide G95-1251-A "Biological Control of Insect and Mite Pests" available at the extension office or online at <http://ianrpubs.unl.edu/insects/g1251.htm>

Snake vs. Snail

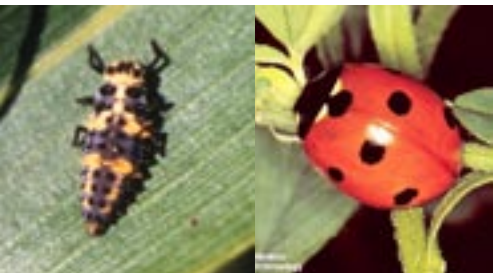


Photo by Soni Cochran

Garter snakes are welcome in our yard but only if they stay out of the backyard fish pond. Unfortunately, the snakes don't understand the fish in the pond aren't for them to eat. Besides goldfish in the little pond, we add some of our large snails from the indoor aquarium. These fascinating snails (sold as "mystery snails") are about the size of a large plum — maybe three inches in diameter. They are not native snails and will die if the water is too cold, so we wait until mid-May to add the snails to the pond. Just recently, we had quite a surprise. We walked by the pond and saw a large garter snake writhing in the water. That wasn't the surprise — we were used to big snakes in the pond. What was a surprise was what we found clamped on the snake's head when we grabbed it and pulled it out of the water! The snake made the mistake of going after one of the large snails. We're not sure if it tried to attack the snail or if it accidentally bumped into the snail. Either way, the snail's operculum clamped down on the snake's head. An operculum (meaning "little lid" in Latin) is a hard plate attached to the snail's foot. The snail's operculum is used to help protect it from predators or from drying out during a drought. You can see it in the photo — it is the dark brown plate under the snail. We tried to rescue the snake from the death grip of the snail but couldn't do it without hurting the snail too. The two-foot snake met an untimely end at the hands (or rather, foot) of an unlikely foe. An example of unusual and unintended biological control.

—By Soni Cochran, Extension Associate

Some Beneficial Predators



Lady beetle (larva stage at left, adult at right)

(Right)
Wolf spider



Adult lacewing



Dysdera woodlouse hunter



Cicada killer wasp

Soybean Management Field Day, Aug. 12

“Growing America’s Future” is the theme for the 2005 Soybean Management Field Day series which will be held at four locations across the state. On Friday, Aug. 12, Lancaster County farmer Steve DeBoer will host one of these field stops at his farm near Holland from 9 a.m.–2:30 p.m. Free registration is available the day of the event.

The Soybean Management Field Days are sponsored by the Nebraska Soybean Board in cooperation with University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension and are funded through checkoff dollars. By attending, producers can obtain ideas and insight about the challenges they face in producing a quality crop at a profitable price in today’s global economy.

Field day presenters include UNL specialists, educators and industry consultants. Topics are:

- Conventional Soybean Weed Control and Roundup Ready Resistance Management
- Growing Soybeans for High Yield and Quality
- Soybean Aphids and Rust
- More Soybean Dollars in Your Pocket.

Each stop also includes demonstration plots, a sponsored lunch and time for questions.

“Every soybean farmer in Nebraska is encouraged to mark their calendar to attend a Soybean Management Field Day near them,” says Greg Anderson, Chairman, Nebraska Soybean Board. “Surveys from past participants show that by attending, they can gain valuable information and insight that will add to their bottom line.”

For more information, go to <http://ardc.unl.edu/soydays.htm> or contact the NE Soybean Board at (800) 852-BEAN or UNL Extension at (800) 529-8030.

Directions to DeBoer’s Farm

Field site is on the south side of Panama Road on the east edge of Holland.

From I-80/South Hwy 77 intersection (exit 397) — proceed 15 miles south on Highway 77, then 6¼ miles east on Panama Road.

From Hickman — 1½ miles south to flashing yellow light, east 2¼ miles.

From Hwy 43 & 158 St. junction with Hwy 2 — proceed 9 miles south (158 St. turns into 162 St.). Then 4¾ miles west on Panama Road.



Free Soybean Cyst Nematode Sample Kits Available

While soybean rust has been in the spotlight since last November, soybean cyst nematodes (SCN) cause the greatest losses to U.S. and Nebraska soybean producers. In many cases, producers are not familiar with SCN or only look for it when there is a problem in a soybean field and all other possibilities have been eliminated.

To increase the awareness of SCN and better define its distribution, the Nebraska Soybean Board provided funding for free sampling kits (\$20 value) to be distributed through extension offices to farmers in counties where soybeans are grown.

Each kit contains a bag for you to submit a sample to the Plant & Pest Diagnostic Clinic at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln and directions for collecting a soil sample. You will need to collect a soil sample and submit it to the clinic by December 31, 2005.

You can sample for SCN any time during the year. After harvest is a good time to

sample if a field didn’t yield as expected and you can’t attribute the lower yields to any other factor such as weather, flooding, insect infestations or weed pressure. During the growing season, if you notice areas in a field where the soybeans don’t look as healthy and it can’t be explained by any of the factors above, it is also a good time to sample.

Since there is a limited quantity of these kits available, they will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis to farmers stopping by the extension office to pick them up. To benefit as many farmers as possible, limit one kit per farm operation.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

NebGuide G99-1383, “Soybean Cyst Nematode Biology and Management,” available at the extension office online at <http://ianrpubs.unl.edu/plantdisease/g1383.htm>

Plant Alfalfa in August

Tom Dorn
Extension Educator

The best time for fall seeding alfalfa in eastern Nebraska is during the month of August, provided adequate soil moisture is available. Farmers sometimes wait until middle or late September to plant alfalfa. This is often too late because the plants do not have a chance to become established before the first killing frost. The latest alfalfa should be seeded in the fall is Sept. 10 in Lancaster County. If planting cannot be completed by that time, it is best to wait for another season.

Alfalfa seed needs to be planted ¼- to ½-inch deep in fine textured soils and ¾-inch deep in sandy soils for best germination. Regardless of seeding time, it is critical that alfalfa be

planted into a firm seed bed. Alfalfa seeds must have close contact with soil particles and soil moisture to insure rapid emergence. A firm seedbed helps prevent seed from being planted too deep. Leave just enough loose soil to cover seed after planting.

Dr. Bruce Anderson, Extension Forage Specialist, says if you can’t bounce a basketball on the seedbed prior to planting alfalfa, the seed bed is too loose. Don’t have a basketball? Walk across the seedbed with hard soled shoes, if your heel sinks in more than ½ inch, it is too loose. A good rain after tillage will firm the seedbed. Harrowing with the spikes set flat or rolling with a packer will firm seedbeds provided there is some moisture in the soil.

Complete tillage (disking) following row crops is okay if

the soil is firmed up by either rain, sprinkler irrigation or packer-seeders. If the untilled soil surface is already smooth, no-till planters have been very successful. In fact, no-till seeding of alfalfa following small grain crops has become the trend among successful alfalfa producers.

Before seeding alfalfa, whether you plant in spring or fall, do a complete soil test. Apply and incorporate lime and phosphorus fertilizer, if needed, and be sure to inoculate the seed.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

NebGuide 652, “Seeding and Renovating Alfalfa” available at the extension office or online at <http://www.ianr.unl.edu/pubs/Range/g652.htm>

St. Johnswort in Lancaster County

Tom Dorn
Extension Educator

St. Johnswort weed seems to be increasing in this part of the state, the concern is it can have detrimental effects on animals that consume it. People need to be aware of this weed and its potential to harm livestock.

Toxicity Symptoms

Consumption of St. Johnswort causes a photosensitizing reaction to non-pigmented skin of livestock exposed to sunlight. Light colored animals are most susceptible, developing dermatitis, which can include skin blisters and hair loss. Blistering can also occur in the non-pigmented skin of the mouth, nose and ears. Symptoms do not result from casual contact; the plant must be eaten. The toxin builds up in the body over time so symptoms may not show up until the animal has been eating the



St. Johnswort leaf

plants for several days to a week.

Care of Affected Animals

There is no antidote for hypericin, the toxin found in St. Johnswort. Care includes, removing St. Johnswort from the animal’s diet and bringing affected animals

out of direct sunlight. If the sunburn is mild, conservative treatment and supportive care is all that is required. Animals will resent handling and horses will not be able to be ridden for at least a couple of weeks. More severely affected animals, including animals whose eyes are affected or where the skin is blistered or sloughing, should be seen by a veterinarian.

Management and Control

Livestock prefer grass over St. Johnswort when both plants are present. This may lead to

overgrazing of grasses which provides openings into which St. Johnswort may spread. Dried St. Johnswort in hay or processed feeds is somewhat less toxic than when eaten fresh but animals are less able to avoid eating it, so feeding hay containing St. Johnswort is a concern. If one must feed hay containing the weed, keep animals in the shade or inside a building during daylight hours while they are being given the hay and for a week after they are no longer consuming it.

Remove animals before spraying pastures with herbicides until after the St. Johnswort plants are completely dead, because herbicide treatment often increases palatability which might result in animals consuming the plants.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Educational resource 309-04 “St. Johnswort — Identification, Management and Control” (includes color photos) available at the extension office or online at <http://lancaster.unl.edu/ag/Factsheets/309.pdf>

Ammoniate Wheat Straw for Extra Feed

Tom Dorn
Extension Educator

If you think you might be short on forage for your cow herd, don’t overlook wheat straw as a forage source. Straw can make good feed for your dry stock cows if you treat it with anhydrous ammonia. “Treating wheat straw with anhydrous ammonia can make it almost as digestible and as readily eaten as average prairie hay. This could help stretch your hay supply. But you have to do it right,” according Bruce Anderson, NU Extension Forage Specialist.

Bale straw soon after grain harvest, preferably with some moisture or dew on it. Then,

gather bales into rows that are stacked like a pyramid. Next, cover the entire stack with one sheet of 6 to 8 millimeter black plastic. Use ropes or other methods to hold plastic in place. Make sure that you seal the edges of the plastic on the ground with loose soil to prevent leakage. Once that is done, you are ready to insert a pipe into the center of your stack and attach the pipe to the anhydrous tank.

Be careful — ammonia can be dangerous. Slowly turn on the anhydrous until the plastic balloons slightly. Don’t go too fast or the plastic can rupture. Next, check and repair any leaks. Continue to add anhydrous slowly until you have added 60 pounds per ton of

straw. This should take about 10 minutes for each ton of straw, depending on the moisture content of the straw.

When you are through, turn off the tank, remove the pipe, and seal its opening. Keep the plastic on the stack until about a week before feeding. Then open one end to allow excess ammonia gas to escape. Ammoniated wheat straw can be very valuable feed.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Extension circular EC 89-265, “Ammonia Treatment of Low Quality Forages” is available at the extension office for 50 cents, or online free at <http://www.ianr.unl.edu/pubs/beef/ec265.htm>

Controlling Muskrat Digging in Ponds

Good Pond Construction is Best Insurance Against Damage

Any permanent pond in the Midwest is apt to have muskrats in it sooner or later. In the Midwest, most muskrats live in streams. In spring or fall, some of the muskrats move. In their spring travels, they are hunting food and safe places to rear young; in fall, they are hunting food and safe winter quarters. These traveling muskrats usually stay in their summer locations until fall and in their winter homes until spring. They may stay in either location permanently if the food and denning facilities are good enough. When they travel they may go several miles, even across dry uplands, in their search for better places to live.

It is on these travels that muskrats find farm ponds and it is usually during spring that they locate in them. If the pond is large and contains abundant food, they may stay. But ponds seldom contain enough aquatic vegetation to hold muskrats past the fall season, especially if they can find better homes.

Pond muskrats dig burrows, and may also build homes of mud and vegetation in shallow water. It is the digging that most pond owners object to, especially when holes are dug into the dam. In digging and working around the shallows, muskrats stir up mud that may keep these areas or the whole pond cloudy. This is objectionable in a pond where clear water is wanted for swim-



Photo by Russell Verbofsky/Paintnet Inc.

ming, livestock use and fish production.

Good pond construction is the best insurance against actual damage by muskrats. In all cases of muskrat damage that have come to our attention, there has never been a case of dam destruction where the following minimum standard specifications were met: dam with water face slope 3 to 1, outer face 2 to 1, width at top 8–12 feet, and freeboard 3 feet after settling, dam sodded and livestock kept off; spillway wide enough to carry off surplus water so it never rises more than 6 inches on the dam. These specifications are likely to agree with those of agricultural agencies.

When muskrats dig into dams, it is to make homes. The burrows start under water, then rise to a chamber hollowed out above water level, with from one to two feet of solid earth and sod above. The muskrats don't tunnel through the dam unless the water rises high enough to make them dig a new chamber, higher up. That is one reason for specifying high freeboard and a wide spill-

way: these keep the water from coming up high enough to force the muskrats to dig new higher chambers dangerously close to the surface. Also, one reason for keeping livestock off a pond area is to avoid the chance of putting a hoof through

the roof of the den and starting a wash.

Old or abandoned muskrat dens may cave in. Then it is usually a simple job, if done at once, to fill in the cavity and reseed to prevent washing.

Since muskrats are especially attracted to ponds containing large amounts of muskrat food plants, eliminating these plants is good muskrat control. Plants most favored by muskrats are the starchy ones such as cattail. These plants should never be planted in fish ponds, because they interfere with fish production. The spike rush, leafy bulrush, and water willow recommended for ponds have little attraction for muskrats. Plant control is also good muskrat control.

Trapping with pinch-type lethal traps is the most efficient way of removing muskrats. If done during the open season, the pelts can be sold for a profit. However, if damage requires immediate action, a landowner should contact the local conservation officer about regulations for emergency out-of-season trapping.

Keeping Snakes Out of Buildings

Remove what attracts snakes. The most effective and lasting way to discourage snakes around a home, such as in the yard and garden, is to make the area unattractive to them. You can do this by removing their survival needs, especially shelter or hiding places.

During warm months, when snakes are active and when most people see them, they are attracted to cool, damp shelter. Remove cover such as boards lying on the ground, rock piles, and weedy growth near buildings. Check around cement walks or porches for cracks or holes that might provide an entrance to snakes for shelter. Repair or close these access points so they can't be used.

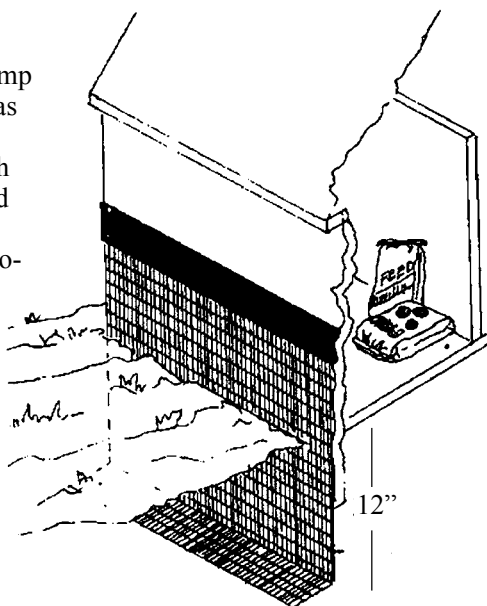
If you have a wood pile for a fireplace or stove, make the stack away from the house. Wood can be moved near the house as needed during colder months, when snakes aren't active. Building a rack to hold the wood pile at least 12 inches above the ground will discourage snakes because the wood (shelter) is separated from the cool,

moist soil.

Check the base of storage sheds to see if snakes might crawl beneath for cover. If so, close off access beneath the shed with packed soil or building materials such as metal or ¼-inch or smaller hardware cloth. To form a tight barrier against snakes, building materi-

als should be buried about six inches under the soil. Although some snakes can push through loose soil, they can't dig or go through hard soil because they have no digging adaptations such as legs or claws. Snakes will use holes made by mice or other rodents, so controlling these rodents may be needed in some situations. Often, removing snake shelter and hiding spots also removes the habitat of insects and rodents that are snake foods, further reducing the attractiveness of the area to snakes.

It's also a good idea to check around the house foundation for cracks or openings where a snake or other unwanted guests (such as mice) might enter. Close all openings larger than ¼ inch and caulk any gaps where surface wires or pipes enter. Holes or cracks in masonry foundations (poured concrete and concrete blocks or bricks) can be sealed with mortar. Holes in wooden buildings can be repaired with fine mesh hardware cloth and/or sheet metal.



Close off access beneath buildings with packed soil or building materials such as metal or ¼-inch or smaller hardware cloth. Building materials should be buried about six inches under the soil.

Upcoming Acreage Insights Clinics

"Acreage Insights — Rural Living Clinics" are designed to help acreage owners manage their rural living environment. This series of seminars are presented by University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension at various locations in the state.

Pre-registration is \$10 per person and must be received three working-days before the program. Late registration is \$15 per person. For more information or to register, contact extension at 441-7180 or go to the Acreage & Small Farm Insights Web site at <http://acreage.unl.edu>.

The following seminars will be held in Lincoln at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek Road on Thursdays from 7–9 p.m.



Large Pond Maintenance • Aug. 11

If you have a body of water on your acreage larger than a backyard pool, you'll want to attend this clinic on pond maintenance. Expert Tadd Barrow, UNL Water Resource Specialist, will explain the ins and outs of keeping large ponds clean, healthy and a real asset to your acreage.



Septic Systems • Sept. 15

Have you ever wondered what happens to wastewater when you take a shower or flush the toilet? Maybe not — unless it's backed up into your house or surfaced in your yard. This clinic will cover:

- 1) What happens to wastewater when it goes down the drain
- 2) How your actions — operation (O) and maintenance (M) — affect your system's performance. Lincoln clinic will cover septic system and lagoon O and M.

Note: NebGuides will be available on design and installation, but these topics will not be addressed in the clinic.

Grapes • Oct. 13

Steve Gamet, UNL Viticulture Technician, will discuss topics such as variety selection, the types of fencing and equipment needed for grapes, the economics of grape production, insect, disease and wildlife control for grapes, and the marketing of grapes to wineries. Steve will also answer your questions regarding grape production.



Woody Florals • Nov. 10

What are woody florals? Plants commonly grown in Nebraska with decorative stems, such as curly willow or redbud dogwood, that are harvested for use in decorative arrangements. Who buys them? Wholesale and retail florists. Can you really make a profit with these plants? Yes, you can! Join us for this presentation by the Nebraska Woody Florals group to learn the basics of this acreage enterprise, including plant species, planting and growing requirements, and harvesting techniques. Marketing and sources of plant material will also be discussed.





Alice Henneman, RD, Extension Educator

Beans, of all varieties, are a natural and tasty addition to salads. These salads are substantial enough to serve as a light main dish.

Southwestern Black Bean Salad

(Makes 4 main-dish servings)

- ½ cup light ranch dressing
 - 1 large tomato, cut into bite-size wedges
 - 1 (15-ounce) can black beans, drained and rinsed
 - 1 cup frozen corn, thawed
 - 1 red bell pepper, chopped or cut into strips
 - 1 shallot, chopped, OR 4 green onions (including stem), sliced
 - 1 package (5-ounces) salad greens
 - 1 cup sharp cheddar cheese, regular or reduced fat, coarsely shredded
 - Black pepper, to taste
1. In a large bowl, combine all salad ingredients (EXCEPT cheese and black pepper).
 2. Divide between large salad plates and top with cheese. Pass black pepper, preferably in a pepper grinder, so people can grind their own.

Three Bean Pasta

(Serves 4–6)

- 1 pound medium or wide egg noodles*, uncooked
 - 1 15-ounce can kidney beans, rinsed and drained
 - 1 15-ounce can chickpeas, rinsed and drained
 - 1 cup frozen green beans, thawed
 - 1 small red onion, chopped
 - 1 red bell pepper, seeds and ribs removed, chopped
 - 3 tablespoons Dijon mustard
 - 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
 - 3 tablespoons red wine vinegar
 - 3 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley
1. Prepare pasta according to package directions; drain. Rinse under cold water and drain again.
 2. In a large bowl, stir together the pasta, kidney beans, chickpeas, green beans, onion and bell pepper. In a small bowl, stir together the remaining ingredients.
 3. Toss pasta with dressing and serve.



Photo from www.ilovepasta.org

*According to the National Pasta Organization, one pound of dry noodles will produce a cooked amount of 5 cups. Other pasta shapes may be substituted for 1 pound of noodles — however a different amount (about 10 ounces) is needed as one pound of macaroni, spaghetti, penne, etc. equals 8 cups cooked volume.

NUTRITION FACTS PER SERVING: calories, 374; protein, 14.7 g; carbohydrates, 59.6 g; fat, 9.3 g; cholesterol, 0 mg
SOURCE: Recipe courtesy of National Pasta Organization. For more information about pasta, visit <http://www.ilovepasta.org>.

Making Super Salads from MyPyramid Food Groups

Alice Henneman, MS, RD
Extension Educator

What could be simpler in the summer time (or anytime) than a main dish salad. With a little planning, it's even possible to include all of the recommended MyPyramid Food Groups in your salad, especially if you count avocados as FRUITS! Following are 14 tips to help you get the most from your summer salads, without heating up your kitchen. See how many of these MyPyramid food groups you can include:

- Vegetables
- Fruits
- Milk
- Meat & Bean
- Grain

Go easy on the salad dressing (about 1 to 1½ tablespoons per 2 cups of salad) to keep calories in check.

Go on the Dark Side with Salad Greens

Choose darker-colored salad greens to add extra color and nutrition to salads. A salad spinner makes quick work of drying salad greens.



Use Your Bean(s)

Keep a couple cans of cooked dry beans in your cupboard for quick and easy main dish summer salads. Cooked dry beans can count in either the Meat & Bean or the Vegetable group. (See recipe for the Southwestern Black Bean Salad at left.)



Pasta Possibilities

Make a double batch of pasta so you only have to heat up the stove once. To use pasta in a cold salad, the National Pasta Association says "drain, rinse with COLD water and

immediately drain again. Then proceed to prepare your dish." (See recipe for "Three Bean Pasta" at left.)

NPA advises, "Refrigerate cooked pasta in an airtight container for 3–5 days. You may add a little oil (1–2 teaspoons for each pound of cooked pasta) to help keep it from sticking."

A Nutty Idea

Almonds (sliced, slivered or whole), walnuts, pecans sesame seeds and sunflower seeds can kick up the taste of your salad. Nuts are in the Meat & Bean food group.



Say Cheese!

Add flavor and bone-building calcium from the milk group! If your experience with Parmesan cheese is limited to shaking it from a can, try using a vegetable peeler to shave about a tablespoon per serving from a block of cheese. Or, sprinkle freshly grated Parmesan on salads.

An EGG-cellent Idea

Hard-cook several eggs at one time and use in salads throughout the week. Hard-cooked eggs in the shell can be kept in the refrigerator for up to one week. MyPyramid counts one egg as equivalent to one ounce of meat in the Meat & Beans Group.



Fantastic Fresh Fruit

Fruits make colorful and healthy additions to salads. Keep cut fruits such as apples and pears, from turning brown by coating them with an acidic juice such as lemon, orange or pineapple juice. Or use a commercial anti-darkening preparation with fruits, such as Ever-Fresh™ or Fruit-Fresh®, and follow the manufacturer's directions.

Cut fruits as close to serving time as possible. Cover and refrigerate cut fruit until ready to serve. Avoid leaving cut fruit at room temperature for more than two hours.

Dandy Dried Fruit

Dried fruits, such as cranberries, blueberries, cherries and raisins add texture, sweetness and healthy antioxidants, too!

All Aboard for Avocados!

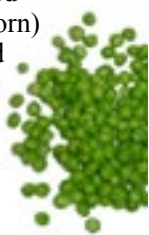
Avocados provide heart-healthy mono-unsaturated fat — did you know they're considered a fruit? Ripen avocados by placing them in a plain brown paper bag and storing them at room temperature. It will take about 2 to 5 days until they're ready to eat.

Get Grilling

Add sliced, grilled meat to your salads. Quickly cook meat indoors without turning on the stove by using a double-sided grill. While the meat is cooking, assemble your salad. Slice and toss in the meat when done.

Peas, Please!

Fresh or thawed frozen peas (and corn) add extra color and nutrition to salads. Quickly thaw frozen peas and corn by placing them in a colander and holding under cool running water for 30 seconds or until thawed. Drain thoroughly.



Pep It Up with Peppers

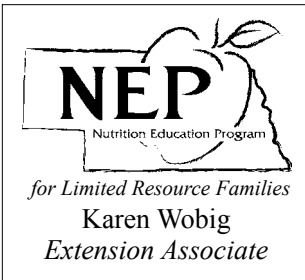
Add strips of peppers — red, green, yellow, etc. — for color and crunch.

Add Crunch with Croutons

Whole grain croutons add both flavor and fiber.



Make Eating Fruits and Vegetables Fun for Youth



Learning about the importance of fruits and vegetables in one's diet should start at an early age. If children grow up eating these kinds of foods, they are more likely to continue doing so in their adult life. The new MyPyramid recommends school-age children eat about 3 cups of fruits and vegetables

(combined) each day. Through the Nutrition Education Program school enrichment project, fourth graders in Lincoln learn about the importance of having fruits and vegetables in their diet. Pre- and post-testing is done to determine if they know how much they should be consuming each day. During one school year, prior to the nutrition education, only 33 percent of the students knew how many fruits and vegetables to eat everyday. At the conclusion, 82 percent of the students knew. This data shows teaching children about dietary guidelines

can have a positive impact. Adults have a great influence on children's eating habits. Since vegetables are sometimes a food children won't eat, talking about their importance and offering them are important ways to promote eating them. Try the following recipe for a fun way to encourage eating vegetables.

Not only can making this recipe be a fun, family activity, but the children actually prepare it AND eat vegetables too! This recipe can also be prepared using fruits alone or along with the vegetables.

Monster Salad

- Leaf lettuce
- ¼ to ½ cup cottage cheese
- Selection of fresh, raw vegetables such as cherry tomatoes; green, yellow or red peppers; broccoli; zucchini slices; peas; beans; baby carrots; celery

1. Wash hands.
2. Wash vegetables.
3. Place lettuce leaf on plate.
4. Put cottage cheese on lettuce and slightly spread.
5. Using a variety of vegetables, let children design their "monster."
6. Eat the salad with a fork, or use vegetable pieces to scoop up the cottage cheese.



Controlling Common Tomato Diseases

Mary Jane Frogge
Extension Associate

Nothing is better than a home-grown, garden tomato, but growing tomatoes does have some pitfalls, including disease problems. Tomatoes are attacked by both fungi and bacterial diseases that affect the leaves, petioles and stems and cause blemishes on the fruits.

Loss of foliage due to disease, causes the tomato plant to be less productive or vigorous. Severe foliage loss can lead to sunscald on developing tomatoes, which are suddenly exposed to more intense sunlight. If foliage diseases are not controlled, they can lead to death of the plant.

Common diseases of tomato include septoria leaf spot, early blight, bacterial speck and bacterial spot.

Septoria leaf spot begins as tiny black dots on the leaves, enlarging to small circular spots

with a dark margin and gray center. Infected leaves turn yellow and die. Early blight appears as irregular, dark brown areas on the leaves with concentric, black rings develop-

ing in a target-like pattern as the spots enlarge. Early blight can spread very rapidly. Bacterial speck appears as tiny, pinhead sized, black specks on tomato leaves and fruits. Bacterial spot is very similar to bacterial speck, but the leaf and fruit spots are slightly larger. On tomato fruits, bacterial spot results in slightly raised, brown, scabby lesions.

One of the most common sources of infection for tomato leaf spot diseases is through rain splashing on bare soil. All of the diseases mentioned above overwinter on infected plant debris in the soil. During a rainstorm, water droplets hit the soil surface, splashing water and soil up onto the lowest tomato leaves. Prevent rain splash in your



Bacterial speck



Bacterial spot



Septoria Leaf Spot



Early blight on tomato leaf

garden by covering the soil with mulch. Mulch plants with clean straw, grass clippings, wood chips or any other coarse organic material. Mulch also helps suppress weed growth, moderates soil temperature extremes and helps retain soil moisture.

Suppression of leaf spot diseases, once plants have been infected, can be accomplished through sanitation and the application of fungicides. As soon as leaf spot diseases are noticed, remove the affected leaves and begin a fungicide spray program. Read and follow label directions carefully, including how often to reapply the fungicide product and the number of days that must pass after application before tomatoes can be harvested.

Keep tomato leaves as dry as possible by applying water to the base of plants instead of through an overhead sprinkler, since water on the leaf surface promotes germination of fungal spores and leaf infection.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Neb Guide 1391, "Diseases of Home Garden Tomatoes" available at the extension office or online at <http://ianrpubs.unl.edu/PlantDisease/g1391.htm>

Bagworm Control Too Late Now

Bagworms can cause a great deal of damage during the last few weeks of feeding, and gardeners may be tempted to spray for them now. But late August sprays are totally ineffective. Understanding the life cycle of this moth will explain why and can help tremendously in planning effective control measures.

Bagworms normally finish feeding and close up their bags in late summer. After that, insecticides are ineffective because they cannot reach the pest. Egg hatch does not occur until the next spring, usually late May. Insecticide sprays are more likely to be effective if applied when the bagworms are small. Even *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Dipel, Thuricide) can be effective on young bagworms. Other commonly used pesticides include Orthene, cyfluthrin, permethrin, malathion and Sevin. During most years, a spray about June 15 will give good control. Do not forget, insecticides are not the only means of control. Hand picking and destroying the bags is effective any time of year the bags are large enough to be picked.



Bags at completion of larval development

—Mary Jane Frogge, Extension Associate

Nebraska Herbal Society & Pioneers Park Nature Center present

A Morning with Herbs

Saturday, Aug. 27 • 9 a.m.–Noon
Pioneers Park Nature Center

9 a.m. — Short Herbal Society business meeting
9:20 a.m. — Tour of the Nature Center's Louise Evans Doole Herb Garden
10 a.m. — WORKSHOP: AN HERBAL KITCHEN BOUQUET
Create a bouquet from fresh herbs for culinary use or dried as a wall decor. Other herb crafts will be on display with instruction hand-out sheets.
11 a.m. — WORKSHOP: THE TASTE OF OREGANO
Explore the many culinary uses of oregano, the 2005 Herb of the Year. The workshop will include demonstrations, samples and recipes.

The meeting and tour are free, there is a charge for the two workshops which must be prepaid.
\$5/Herb Society member; \$8/non-member
Call 441-7895 by Aug. 22 to reserve your place.



Garden Guide

Things to do this month

Check deciduous trees for fall webworm. Use a broom or rake to get them out of small trees.

Check on water needs of hanging baskets daily in the summer. Wind and sun dry them much more quickly than other containers.

Clean up fallen rose and peony leaves. They can harbor disease and insect pests over the winter if allowed to remain on the ground.

Mound soil over the lateral or brace roots of corn stalks for extra support against strong winds.

Pick summer squash and zucchini every day or two to keep the plants producing.

Hand pick bagworms from your evergreen and deciduous trees.

Remove old vegetable plants which have stopped producing to eliminate a shelter for insects and disease organisms.

Water the garden early in the day so plants can absorb the moisture before the hot sun dries the soil. Early watering also insures the foliage dries before night. Wet foliage at night increases susceptibility to fungus diseases.

Many herbs self-sow if the flowers are not removed. Dill produce seeds that fall around the parent plant and come up as volunteers the following spring.

To reduce the number of pests on your fruit tree for the coming year, pick up and destroy all fallen fruit.

Bt (*Bacillus thuringiensis*) is used by many gardeners to protect cole crops from chewing caterpillars.

White flies are attracted to yellow, so use yellow sticky boards to reduce their populations.

Every weed that produces seed means more trouble next year. Control weeds before they go to seed.

Do not add weeds with mature seed heads to the compost pile. Many weed seeds can remain viable and germinate next year when the compost is used.

Versatile Nasturtiums — Easy to Grow

The nasturtium is a versatile plant used for edging in flowerbeds or in window boxes, patio containers or hanging baskets. The abundant, colorful blooms are edible and can be cut for use as an elegant entree garnish or salad decoration. The leaves, which contain a good dose of vitamin C, can be used to add a peppery flavor to fresh salads.

'*Tropaeolum minor*,' the scientific name for the nasturtium, comes from the Greek word meaning "to twine," which is descriptive of some of the 50 species in this genus. Nasturtium was first found growing in Mexico and Peru where it was used instead of cress to flavor foods. It was brought to Europe in the 16th



Photo © Br. Alfred Brousseau, Saint Mary's College

century and considered a symbol of conquest and victory in battle. Victorian women later used it in tussie mussies to ward off bad smells.

Nasturtiums come in three types: dwarf, semi-trailing and single-flower climbing. Dwarf types are bushy and compact and include the cultivars 'Alaska,' 'Empress of India,' 'Strawberries and Cream' and 'Whirlybird.' Semi-trailing types reach a length of two to

three feet, making them ideal for hanging baskets. The single-flower climbing types like, 'Jewel of Africa,' send out six to eight foot runners that climb trellises like vines. Colors of this type are bright and range from yellow and orange to rose and

crimson. Vines are strong and have fragrant flowers.

Nasturtium is one of the easiest flowers to grow from seed. The best flowering will be in full sun, but they will tolerate partial shade. Seeds can be sown directly in the garden beginning in late April. Nasturtiums are not choosy about their soil. Do not spoil them with rich, fertile soil and fertilizers as this will only result in lush foliage and few blooms.

AUGUST



Myron & Barb Smith

Lancaster County 4-H is proud to announce Myron and Barb Smith as co-winners of August's "Heart of 4-H Award" in recognition of outstanding volunteer service.

Barb has been a 4-H volunteer for nine years and Myron for four years. When their son Nathan joined 4-H in 1996, Barb organized and led the Middle Creek Munchkins 4-H club (now known as Creative Clovers). Myron has assisted as a project leader. Three years ago, the couple started a second club, Classic Cars R Us (Myron is organizational leader and Barb is assistant leader). Both have volunteered at the 4-H food booth at county fair, and presented Clover College classes (including "Antique Autos" and "Mousetrap Cars"). Barb has also helped with 4-H workshops presented at Lincoln City Libraries.

"We like being 4-H volunteers because it helps youth expand their interests and skills," said Barb. She adds, "My favorite experience is our traditional end of 4-H year achievement celebration with Creative Clovers. We have a family bicycle ride on one of the area trails." Myron's favorite experience, is developing automotive-related activities for the Classic Cars R Us club.

Myron and Barb also volunteer for several other organizations, including: Boy Scout Troop 290-Milford, Zion Lutheran, Milford Fine Arts Boosters, Antique Automobile Club of America (AACA), AACA's CHIP youth program and several local antique car clubs.

Congratulations to Myron and Barb! Volunteers like them are indeed the heart of 4-H!

Nominate your favorite 4-H volunteer by submitting the form available at the extension office or online at <http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h>. Nominations of co-volunteers welcome.



Volunteers Needed at State Fair

Hundreds of volunteers help make the 4-H section at the Nebraska State Fair incredibly successful. Volunteers are needed to assist as Exhibit Hall Host/Hostesses, Discover 4-H Volunteers and as Contest/Event Assistants. Volunteers receive a complementary parking pass and gate entrance. For more information, please contact Lisa Spilker at 472-2805 or lspilker2@unl.edu by Monday, Aug 1.

"Fair's Over, Now What?" Volunteer Training, Sept. 29

Leaders, parents and interested volunteers are invited to attend this 4-H training Thursday, Sept. 29, 9:30 a.m. or 7 p.m. Discover how to complete the current 4-H year and how to prepare for the next 4-H year. Awards, project completion/selection and club reorganization will be covered. Bring your questions and ideas! You must RSVP by calling 441-7180 prior to Monday, Sept. 26.

Lancaster County 4-H Seeks New 4-H Council Members

Serving on the Lancaster 4-H Council is an excellent opportunity to contribute to the youth development of local 4-H members. The 4-H Council is composed of youth and adults working together in the interest of promoting activities of Lancaster County 4-H.

Council membership terms are three years for adults and two years for youth. Council members are limited to two consecutive terms. The council consists of volunteer 4-H leaders, sponsors, community leaders, school, church and civic officials. Interest in extension education and youth is essential.

Individuals interested in serving on the 4-H Council are encouraged to contact Tracy at 441-7180 for more information and an application.

4-H Strategic Plan Survey — Share Your Opinion!

Nebraska 4-H is now in the process of developing goals for the next five years. Please give your feedback about what's important to you by filling out an online survey. Lancaster County 4-H'ers are encouraged to share their input at <http://4h.unl.edu>. The survey takes about 10 minutes to complete. If you have questions, please call the State 4-H Office at 472-2805, or e-mail: klodl@unl.edu.

Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Youth Expo, Sept. 27–Oct. 2

The 78th Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Youth Livestock Exposition will be held Sept. 27-Oct. 2 at the Qwest Center in Omaha. More than 2,000 4-H families from an eight-state area participate in the Expo. Categories of this 4-H only competition are Dairy, Feeder Calf & Breeding Beef, Horse, Market Beef, Market Broilers, Meat Goats, Market Lamb and Market Swine. For more information, entry forms and tentative schedule, go to <http://www.aksarben.org>.

Entries Due Aug. 7

Entries from Lancaster 4-H members are due to extension staff by Sunday, Aug. 7. Please make sure to include all entry fees, chutes and parking. Ak-Sar-Ben rule books and forms can be picked up in the office or obtained at county fair. Please give Deanna or Marty a call if you have any questions.

Change to Health Certificates

Please note this year Ak-Sar-Ben will require 15-day health certificates for all animals!

COUNTY FAIR 4-H & FFA NEWS



Fair Book Age Correction

Please note there is an error in the 2005 Lancaster County Fair Book regarding eligible age of 4-H members. It should read, "4-H is open to all youth 5 to 18 years old (age as of January 1 of the current year). The last year of eligibility to exhibit in a 4-H or 4-H/FFA show is the calendar year the member becomes 19." This is a State 4-H rule. We apologize for any confusion this may have caused.

4-H Food Booth Training, July 28

ALL county fair food booth volunteers are encouraged to attend this training at the Lancaster Event Center, Thursday, July 28, 6–7 p.m. Learn about food safety, customer service and volunteer responsibilities. See you there!

Static Exhibit Volunteers Needed

Volunteers (age 12 and up) are needed to help at the county fair in the following capacities. Call Tracy at 441-7180 to sign up. Your help is appreciated!

- Static exhibits set-up day — July 30, begins 8 a.m.
- Check-in exhibits on entry day — Aug. 1, 4-8 p.m.
- Assist judges on judging day — Aug. 2, beginning at 8 a.m.
- Put up project displays — Aug. 2, begins 2 p.m.

Livestock Set-Up Day, July 31

4-H and FFA livestock exhibitors and families are asked to assist with setting up livestock pens and arenas on Sunday, July 31 at 2 p.m. in Pavilion 1 at the Lancaster Event Center. Please bring pliers, post drivers and any wire you may have sitting around. Everyone's help will be greatly appreciated. The

more people we have attend, the faster the set up. If you have questions, contact Deanna at 441-7180.

Horse Dressage Check-In, Aug. 1

4-H'ers showing in the Horse Dressage show Tuesday, Aug. 2 may check-in their horses Monday, Aug. 1 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The farrier office will be open during that time so bedding can be purchased. There will be an opportunity for warm up time in the show arena on Tuesday, Aug. 2 from 8:30 a.m.–12 noon. You must sign up for the 10-minute warm-up blocks during the 4-H horse pre-fair briefing held Sunday, July 31 at 2 p.m. at the Event Center 4-H Office.

Interview Judging, Aug. 2

4-H'ers have the opportunity to talk to judges about their fair exhibits and share their trials and lessons they learned. 4-H'ers also learn what the judge looks for and how to improve skills.

4-H'ers may interview judge ONE exhibit from each project area. Refer to page 30 of the Fair Book for project areas that have interview judging. Call the office at 441-7180 to sign up for a five-minute time slot. Interview judging is Tuesday, Aug. 2 starting at 9 a.m. in the Lincoln Room.

Herdsmanship Judges Needed

Volunteer judges are needed to help determine the top club deserving herdsmanship honors at the county fair. Judges check animal stalls twice a day between the hours of 8 a.m. and 9 p.m. Judges look

Premium Payouts MUST Be Picked Up During Fair, Sunday, Aug. 7

Premium payouts to 4-H & FFA exhibitors will be paid in cash on Sunday, Aug. 7, Noon–4 p.m. at the Lancaster Event Center Fair Board Office. Subject to identification, parents, guardians, 4-H club leaders, FFA chapter advisors will be permitted to pick up and sign for exhibitor premiums. NO CHECKS WILL BE ISSUED THIS YEAR! No changes or corrections will be made on premium amounts after 60 days.

for cleanliness of both the animals and stalls. 4-H and FFA members are also judged on courtesy and conduct. If you are interested, please contact Deanna at 441-7180 or e-mail dkarmazin2@unl.edu.

Teen Tour Guides Needed for Fair Fun Day, Aug. 5

Volunteer teens are needed Friday, Aug. 5 to serve as tour guides for Fair Fun Day. Fair Fun Day gives child care groups (1st through 4th grades) an interactive, hands-on experiential tour of the fair. Volunteers are needed from 9–11:30 a.m. and/or 12:30–3 p.m. Call Lorene at 441-7180 to sign up.

Show & Tell for Clover Kids, Aug. 6

All Clover Kids, youth age 5-7 by January 1, 2005, are invited to show & tell their 4-H exhibits at the Lancaster County Fair, Saturday, Aug. 6, starting at 1 p.m. Clover Kids Show & Tell is held in the Lincoln Room at the Lancaster Event Center. See page 26 of the Fair Book for more information. To register, call 441-7180 by Friday, July 29, or sign up at the static exhibit area Monday, Aug. 1, 4-8 p.m.

Static Exhibits Released Sunday, Noon–2 p.m.

Please note — this year Static Exhibits will be released ONLY on Sunday, Aug. 7 between Noon and 2 p.m. Exhibits MUST be picked up during this time!

PASE Results



(L–R) 4-H staff member Deanna Karmazin and members of the Lancaster Livestock Judging Team: Shayna Truax, Whitney Poole, Whitney Davis, and Will Davis

Several Lancaster County 4-H members participated in the University of Nebraska–Lincoln Premier Animal Science Events (PASE) held June 26–27 on UNL East Campus.

The 2005 Lancaster County 4-H Livestock Judging team tied for eighth place overall team and placed fourth overall in the swine division. The team consisted of team members Will Davis, Whitney Davis, Shayna Truax and Whitney Poole. The youth judged classes consisting of suffolk rams, feedlot steers, market hogs, simmental breeding heifers, cull/keep composite heifers & breeding gilts. The highlight of the competition was giving three sets of oral reasons.

Matt Rawe, a member of the Lancaster County State Dairy Judging Team placed 11th overall individual (he missed the top ten by one point). This was Matt’s first year competing in the contest. Congratulations to all participants!

Life Challenge Results

The 4-H Life Challenge contests focus on Family and Consumer Science project areas.

The County Senior Life Challenge contest was held May 25. Kristin Wissink was awarded the Grand Champion rosette.

The State Senior Life Challenge contest was held June 26–27 at UNL East Campus in conjunction with PASE. 4-H members participating in this contest were Catherine Dowd and Hannah Spencer.

The County Junior Life Challenge contest was held July 6 and Allison Zastrow was awarded the Grand Champion rosette.



(L–R) 4-H intern Jami Rutt with County Senior Life Challenge ribbon recipients: Catherine Dowd, Elizabeth Potter, Lizabeth Wissink and Grace Farley. (Not pictured: Kristin Wissink)

District Horse Shows Results

Lancaster County 4-H horse exhibitors participated in district shows held across the state during the last week in June. Below are the purple ribbon winners. Full results are online at <http://4h.unl.edu/disthorseshow>. Congratulations to all participants!

COLUMBUS

	(AGES)		
Western Pleasure Horses	12-14	Morgan Brehm	Champion
Western Horsemanship	12-14	Morgan Brehm	Champion
Pole Bending	15&up	Ryan Hagan	
Barrels	15&up	Ryan Hagan	Champion

SEWARD

English Pleasure	14< hands	15&up	Mindy Leach	
English Equitation		15&up	Morgan Marshall	
English Equitation		12-14	Gabrielle Warner	
English Equitation		12-14	Nicole Seier	
Western Pleasure Horses		15&up	Morgan Marshall	Champion
Western Horsemanship		15&up	Mindy Leach	Champion
Western Horsemanship		15&up	Martina Dye	Reserve Champion
Western Horsemanship		12-14	Ben Leach	
Reining		15&up	Martina Dye	Champion
Reining		15&up	Micah Messick	Reserve Champion
Pole Bending		15&up	Micah Messick	
Pole Bending		15&up	Anna Russell	
Pole Bending		12-14	Dustin Ehrlich	Champion
Barrel		15&up	Cassie Krueger	
Barrels		15&up	Micah Messick	
Barrels		15&up	Anna Russell	Champion
Barrels		12-14	Dustin Ehrlich	
Barrels		12-14	Elizabeth Gregg	Champion
Barrels		12-14	Taylor Holiday	

TECUMSEH

Pole Bending		15&up	Nicole Zuhlke	Champion
Pole Bending		15&up	Amanda Essink	
Barrels		15&up	Amanda Essink	Champion
Barrels		15&up	Nicole Zuhlke	Reserve Champion

2005

LANCASTER COUNTY FAIR

AUGUST 3–7

LANCASTER EVENT CENTER • LINCOLN

SUMMER BLAST!

People’s Choice
4-H Awards

In the spirit of FUN, the People’s Choice 4-H Awards focus on the more playful and whimsical aspects of county fair projects. Everyone (including 4-H’ers) may vote once. Use this ballot to write in your choices. Place finished ballot in marked box at 4-H Information Booth in the Lincoln Room. **Deadline for ballots is Saturday, Aug. 6 at 3 p.m.** Award certificates will be given to the winning exhibits Saturday evening. *Please, no ballot stuffing — keep it fun!*

OFFICIAL BALLOT
for People’s Choice 4-H Awards

Note: Please make sure you select 4-H exhibits for these awards, not Open Class or FFA.



Place finished ballot in marked box at 4-H Information Booth in Lincoln Room by SATURDAY, AUG. 6 AT 3 P.M.



4-H STATIC EXHIBITS (LOCATED IN LINCOLN ROOM)		
Category	Exhibitor’s Name <small>Located on Entry Tag</small>	Short Description of Exhibit
Yummiest Looking Food Item		
Plant or Veggie that Looks Most Like a Person		
Craziest Clothing Article		
Poster or Photo with Most Pizzazz		
Rocket You Think Would Fly the Highest		
Grossest Bug in an Entomology Display		

4-H ANIMAL EXHIBITS (LOCATED IN PAVILION 1*)		
Category	Exhibitor’s Name <small>Located on stall card, or ask a nearby 4-H member if they can help</small>	Short Description of Animal
Cuddliest Rabbit		
Noisiest Rooster		
Goat with Silliest Table Manners		
Friendliest Sheep		
Llama with the Most Beautiful Eyes		
Dairy Cow You Think Would Give the Most Milk		
Beef Cow with Most Unusual Hair Pattern or Markings		
Most Relaxed Swine (Pig)		
Horse with Most Magnificent Mane <small>*Horses are located in Pavilion 2</small>		

5-Day Grantsmanship Training, Sept. 12–16



The Grantsmanship Training Program will be offered to the Lincoln community Sept. 12–16 at the Lancaster Extension Education Center. The intensive, “hands-on” workshop covers all aspects of researching grants, writing proposals and negotiating with funding sources.

Designed for both novice and advanced grant seekers, the program participants are given follow-up services, including expert grant proposal reviews for a full year following training. To maximize personal attention, the group size for the five-day program is limited to 30 participants. The cost of the training program is \$825.

In the first part of the workshop you will learn to develop and critique proposal components. You will also serve as a panelist, evaluating a proposal brought to class by a participant. In the second part of the workshop you will study funding sources — federal, state, foundation and corporate — using a library of reference materials available at the workshop site. Then, in a small working group, you will prepare a complete proposal, identify likely funding sources, present your proposal for review and receive feedback from the trainer and your fellow participants.

Since 1997, University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension has hosted The Grantsmanship Training Program. Approximately 150 individuals representing various Lincoln agencies, surrounding communities and states have participated.

To apply for a scholarship or register, contact The Grantsmanship Center at 800-421-9512 or online at <http://www.tgci.com>. For local information, call Gary C. Bergman, University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension at 441-7180.

New Web Site Offers Information on Human Services in Nebraska

Find local listings for counseling, support groups or hotlines. Help other Nebraskans connect with local assistance for rent, utilities or food. An easy way to locate information about a wide variety of health and social services in your community and in other cities and towns across Nebraska, is just a click away.

www.ne211.org, Nebraska’s new 2-1-1 Web site, offers local human services information to people across the state, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You may search for information in several ways on the 2-1-1 Web site, including searches by location or by type of service.

The Web site is a handy resource for people trying to find services for themselves, a friend or relative in another Nebraska community. Helping professionals will find the Web site useful as a “one stop shop” to help connect clients with services.

Information and Referral Nebraska is a collaborative group of organizations from across the state. The organizations are working together to ensure individuals find the help they need by providing an easy means to search the entire state for health and human service information. Information & Referral Nebraska partners maintain databases containing information on several thousand agencies, programs and services across the state. The partners continually assess and update



the resources available in their area to ensure their databases include the broadest representation of services possible.

Information & Referral Nebraska partners share the information in their individual databases to create the 2-1-1 statewide database of human services information. The information may be accessed either by calling 2-1-1 (currently available in 30 Nebraska counties and eight southwest Iowa counties) or by clicking on www.ne211.org.

The following four database partners contributed data to the www.ne211.org Web site: Lincoln/Lancaster County Health Department; Nebraska Respite Network (Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services); Panhandle Partnership for Health and Human Services; and United Way of the Midlands (host of the 2-1-1 Call/Resource Center). The University of Nebraska Public Policy Center provides administrative and technical support to the collaborating organizations.

Organizations providing funding for 2-1-1 telephone service in their community include: Central District Health Department; City of Lincoln/Lancaster County Joint Budget Committee; City of Scottsbluff Keno Funds; Columbus Area United Way; Cozad United Way; Eaton Corporation; Fremont Area United Way.

This Truman Scholar developed a passion for service at Nebraska.

JONATHAN JONES, a junior political science and English major at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln and a Fremont native, cares about issues. His interests led him to the University Honors Program and the Nebraska Apple Seed Center for Law and the Public Interest, and helped him earn the state’s only \$26,000 Truman law.

There are so many advantages to going here – including great student-teacher interaction. Potential students need to not a place where they

are going to get lost.”

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Great Neighborhoods! Series of Workshops



Great Neighborhoods! is a series of eight workshops designed for Lincoln residents who want to become more active in their neighborhoods and neighborhood associations. Workshops provide tools and techniques to develop and enhance leadership skills.

Now in its third season, the program has been developed by the Urban Development Department–City of Lincoln, Neighbor Works of Lincoln and the Heartland Center for Leadership Development.

The series of 2-day workshops takes place over the course of four months and includes eight topics:

- **Leadership Styles & Practices** — Friday, Aug. 19
- **Enhancing Diversity Within**



Neighborhood Associations — Saturday, Aug. 20

• **Strengthening Membership** — Friday, Sept. 23

• **Meetings to Move People Forward** — Saturday Sept. 24

• **Communicating Your Message** — Friday, Oct. 21

• **Partnering with City Hall** — Saturday, Oct. 22

• **Vision Into Action** — Friday, Nov. 18

• **Fundraising Strategies** — Saturday, Nov. 19

Workshops are held on Friday evenings (5:30–9 p.m.) and Saturday mornings (8:30 a.m.–noon). All sessions will be held in the Upstairs Conference Room of the “F” Street Recreation Center, 1225 “F” Street.

Cost to attend the work-

shop series is \$50 if you preregister before Aug. 8, \$65 for late registration. Fee covers all eight workshops, hand-out materials and food (light supper on Fridays and continental breakfast on Saturdays).

Participants who complete the series will receive a Great Neighborhood! recognition certificate at the final workshop. Thirty people from more than 20 different Lincoln neighborhoods and organizations are recent graduates of Great Neighborhoods!

Please, make checks payable to Heartland Center for Leadership Development, 941 “O” Street, Suite 920, Lincoln, NE 68508. For more information, call 474-7667.

EXTENSION CALENDAR

All programs and events will be held at the Lancaster Extension Education Center unless otherwise noted.

JULY

- 27 County Fair 4-H Style Revue Judging, *Lancaster Event Center, Pavilion 3, Exhibit Hall*. Begins at 8 a.m.
- 28 County Fair 4-H Food Booth Training, *Lancaster Event Center* . . . 6–7 p.m.
- 28 4-H Teen Council Meeting (Informal), *Lancaster Event Center* 7 p.m.
- 30 County Fair Static Exhibit Room Set-Up Day, *Lancaster Event Center, Lincoln Room*. 8 a.m.
- 31 County Fair 4-H/FFA Livestock Set-Up Day, *Lancaster Event Center, Pavilion 2*. 2 p.m.
- 31 County Fair 4-H Horse Show Pre-Fair Briefing, *Lancaster Event Center, Pavilion 3, Extension Satellite Office*. 2 p.m.

AUGUST

- 1 County Fair Static Exhibit Entry Day, *Lancaster Event Center* 4–8 p.m.
- 2 County Fair 4-H Horse Check-In: Dressage and English (Western if desired), *Lancaster Event Center* 8 a.m.–Noon
- 2–3 County Fair 4-H Poultry Check-In, *Lancaster Event Center*
- 2–3 County Fair 4-H Rabbit Check-In, *Lancaster Event Center*
- 2 County Fair 4-H Horse Check-In: Western, *Lancaster Event Center* . . Noon

AUG. 3–7 LANCASTER COUNTY FAIR, LANCASTER EVENT CENTER

- 7 County Fair Premium Payouts, *Lancaster Event Center* Noon–4 p.m.
- 7 Deadline for Entries to Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Youth Expo
- 11 Acreage Insights: Rural Living Clinics — “Large Pond Maintenance”. 7–9 p.m.
- 12 Lancaster Extension Board Meeting. 8 a.m.
- 12 Soybean Management Field Day, *DeBoer farm near Holland* 9 a.m.–2:30 p.m.
- 25 State Fair 4-H Entry Day, 4-H Building, *State Fair Park* 7:30–10 a.m.

AUG. 25–SEPT 5 NEBRASKA STATE FAIR, STATE FAIR PARK

Safety Course for Drivers 50 & Up, Sept. 7 & 8

University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension in Lancaster County is co-sponsoring a 55 ALIVE Driver Safety Course on Wednesday, Sept. 7 and Thursday, Sept. 8, 12:30–4:30 p.m. Cost is \$10 payable at the first class. Call 441-7180 to register.

The AARP Driver Safety Program is the nation’s first and largest classroom driver refresher course especially designed for motorists age 50 and older.

Drivers aged 55 and over, compared with drivers aged 30–54, are involved in more accidents per mile driven. The number of accidents per mile rises sharply at about age 75.

The eight-hour course is taught in two, 4-hour sessions

spanning two days. The course helps drivers refine existing skills and develop safe, defensive driving techniques. AARP members and non-members alike may take the course. There are no tests.

The AARP Driver Safety Program course covers the following topics:

- Vision and hearing changes
- Effects of medication
- Reaction time changes
- Left turns and other right-of-way situations
- New laws and how they affect you
- Hazardous driving situations

Research shows a direct link between the kinds of driving problems experienced by older motorists and the physical changes that can occur in

all older persons. The loss of vision, hearing and physical strength is gradual and can go virtually unnoticed until older drivers are faced with a driving emergency they are no longer able to handle.

For example, the gradual failure of sensory acuity associated with aging reduces the quantity and accuracy of information capable of being processed. This reduces the ability of the individual to respond or react to his/her environment with speed and judgement current traffic often requires.

By being aware of these normal age-related changes and learning how they affect driving, older motorists can compensate for them and become better drivers.

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Discover all the exciting opportunities 4-H can offer you!

4-H is open
to all youth
ages 5-18

Prizes!

Food!

Fun!

4-H Kick Off



Tuesday, Sept. 20 • 6 p.m.

Lancaster Extension Education Center
444 Cherrycreek Road, Lincoln

Lancaster County 4-H kicks off the 4-H year with an opportunity for youth and their families to discover 4-H!

Four ways to get involved:

- Join an existing 4-H club
- Help form a new 4-H club
- Be an independent member
- Participate in 4-H activities such as camps

DISCOVER  DISCOVER
4-H YOU

Find out more about 4-H at <http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h>

CWF Learns About History, Government on Trip to D.C.

This June, the Lancaster County 4-H Citizen Washington Focus (CWF) group traveled by bus on an ambitious 15-day itinerary to Washington D.C. This year's group consisted of 48 teens and 5 sponsors. CWF is a citizenship and leadership program for high school youth which provides a look behind the scenes at our nation's capital.

Stops along the way included historical sights such as the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, Valley Forge, Gettysburg, Mount Vernon and Monticello.

The group spent five days at the National 4-H Conference Center near Washington, D.C. with delegations from other states. There the 4-H'ers held mock congressional sessions and learned how bills become law.

Tours of the capital included the Capitol building, the Smithsonians, the Holocaust Museum, Arlington Cemetery and all of the memorials.

In Lancaster County, CWF organizes a trip to Washington D.C. every three years, raising money for the trip during the off years. If you will between the ages of 15-18 as of June 1, 2008 and are interested in joining the next CWF group, call Deanna Karmazin at 441-7180.



A lookout point on Gettysburg battlefield



On board the Maid of the Mist, Niagara Falls



Independence Hall, Philadelphia



Valley Forge



Washington Monument

Can You Guess It?



Did you guess it? Find out at <http://lancaster.unl.edu>

Did you guess it from the July NEBLINE?
The answer was pollen on a Scots pine tree.

Clover College is Hands-On Learning

A four-day series of hands-on workshops for youth, 4-H Clover College is presented annually by University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension in Lancaster County. This year's Clover College, held June 21-24, featured 37 workshops and 413 total registrations! A special thanks to the 51 instructors and assistants who helped make Clover College a success! More photos are on-line at <http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/programs/clovercollege/2005photos.htm>.



Steve Hubbel from the Civil Air Patrol taught "GPS Basics."



Youth learned about dairy goats in "Great Goats!" presented by 4-H leader Leeza Moyer.



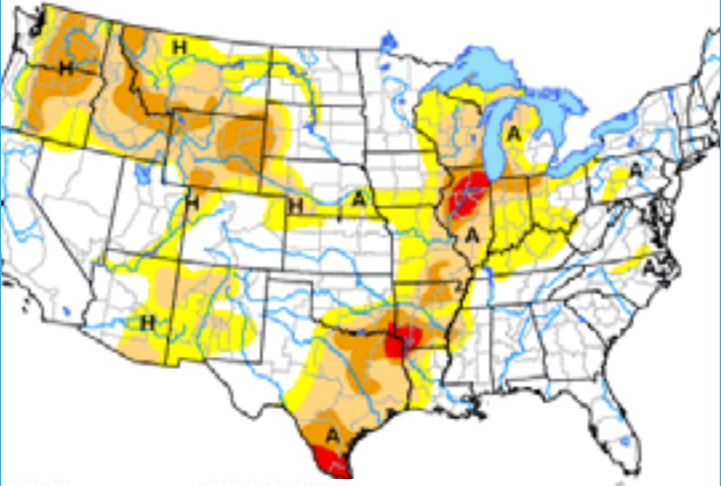
"Fishing Fun" at Oak Lake.



Putting a halter on is part of learning about "A Horse Of Course."

U.S. Drought Monitor Map

As of July 12, Lancaster County was in abnormally dry conditions.



For the most recent map, visit www.drought.unl.edu/dm

Source: National Drought Mitigation Center, University of Nebraska



4-H members Nicole and Kyle Pedersen presented "No Thyme Like the Present!"



Creating a "Jazzy Juice Pouch Purse" isn't a snap, but can be done with a little sewing!